

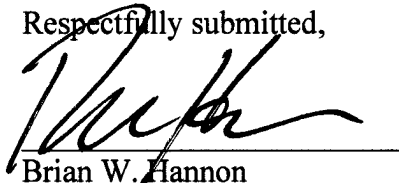
REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are all the claims pending in the application. Applicants thank the Examiner for having indicated that claims 1-22 contain allowable subject matter. To place the application in condition for allowance, and without prejudice, Applicants have cancelled claims 23-29 from the application. In addition, for clarification purposes, Applicants have made a minor amendment to independent claim 1 as well as dependent claim 3. Specifically, with respect to independent claim 1, the term "substrate" has been changed to "layer" such that the first step of claim 1 recites "providing a layer of tungsten or a tungsten alloy". Claim 3 has been amended to address the antecedent issue related to this change.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: June 14, 2007